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By: **Delegate Bronrott**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Violation of Pedestrian Right-of-Way - Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for certain violations of vehicle laws that  
4 establish a pedestrian right-of-way in a marked crosswalk; and generally  
5 relating to violations of vehicle laws relating to pedestrians.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article - Transportation  
8 Section 21-502 and 27-101(a) and (b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2002 Replacement Volume)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 27-101(c)(21) and (22)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2002 Replacement Volume)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 21-502.

20 (a) (1) This subsection does not apply where:

21 (i) A pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing is  
22 provided, as described in § 21-503(b) of this subtitle; or

23 (ii) A traffic control signal is in operation.

24 (2) The driver of a vehicle shall come to a stop when a pedestrian  
25 crossing the roadway in a crosswalk is:

- 1 (i) On the half of the roadway on which the vehicle is traveling; or  
2 (ii) Approaching so closely from the other half of the roadway as to  
3 be in danger.

4 (b) A pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and  
5 walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the  
6 driver to yield.

7 (c) If, at a marked crosswalk or at an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection,  
8 a vehicle is stopped to let a pedestrian cross the roadway, the driver of any other  
9 vehicle approaching from the rear may not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

10 27-101.

11 (a) It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of the  
12 Maryland Vehicle Law unless the violation:

13 (1) Is declared to be a felony by the Maryland Vehicle Law or by any  
14 other law of this State; or

15 (2) Is punishable by a civil penalty under the applicable provision of the  
16 Maryland Vehicle Law.

17 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person convicted of a  
18 misdemeanor for the violation of any of the provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law is  
19 subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

20 (c) Any person who is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of the  
21 following sections of this article is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or  
22 imprisonment for not more than 2 months or both:

23 (21) As to a pedestrian in a marked crosswalk, § 21-502(a) ("Pedestrians'  
24 right-of-way in crosswalks: In general"), IF THE VIOLATION CONTRIBUTES TO AN  
25 ACCIDENT;

26 (22) As to another vehicle stopped at a marked crosswalk, § 21-502(c)  
27 ("Passing of vehicle stopped for pedestrian prohibited"), IF THE VIOLATION  
28 CONTRIBUTES TO AN ACCIDENT;

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
30 October 1, 2003.